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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Bulgarian AAA Units Information 2. Military Units in Yambol 3. AAA Unit Summer Camp near Galata	DATE DISTR.	15 May 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	

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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. [redacted] the following antiaircraft units in Bulgaria: 25X1

   a. An unidentified regiment, [redacted] stationed in Sofia;

   b. An unidentified regiment, [redacted] stationed in Sliven; equipped with 76 mm. M-1938 and 37 mm. M-1939 guns; 25X1

   c. Two unidentified SZA (Srednokaliberna Zenitna Artileriya; Medium Caliber AAA) battalions, equipped with 85 mm. and 88 mm. guns, stationed in Dimitrovgrad;

   d. One unidentified MZA (Malkokaliberna Zenitna Artileriya; Small Caliber AAA) battalion, [redacted] equipped with 20 mm. and 37 mm. guns, stationed in Dimitrovgrad; 25X1

   e. A small caliber battalion, [redacted] stationed in Vratsa; equipped with 37 mm. M-1939 guns and Maksim M-1931 machine guns; 25X1

   f. A medium caliber battalion equipped with 85 mm. M-1939 guns, stationed in Varna;

   g. A small caliber battalion equipped with 20 mm. "Rheinmetal" guns, stationed in Peshtera;

   h. An unidentified unit armed with 12.7 mm. M-1938 DShK machine guns, stationed at Zvezdets, Burgas Okoliya; and

   i. Small caliber battalions equipped with 37 mm. guns, located in each of the following towns and villages: Mikhaylovgrad, Plovdiv, Khaskovo, Asenovgrad, Kazanluk, Burgas, Ruse, Dupnitsa, Shumen, Varna, Gorna Oryakhovitsa, Gara Pirin (N 41-43, E 23-10), Pavlikeni (N 43-14, E 25-18), and Dolni Chiflik (N 42-59, E 27-42).

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STATE		ARMY #Ev	x	NAVY#	x	AIR #Ev.x	FBI		AEC					

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2. The batteries of each of the AAA units mentioned above serve at the artillery positions located in their respective areas on a monthly rotation basis. While on duty, the units use their own artillery pieces.

Location of Military Units in Yambol

3. An infantry regiment known in Yambol as "40 Infantry Regiment" is quartered in the barracks of the former 29 Infantry Regiment, in the northeast section of town. This regiment, strength approximately 1,000 men, is equipped with Soviet-made rifles, tommy-guns, light machine guns, heavy machine guns, and mortars. This regiment spends the six good weather months at a camp near Boyanovo (N 42-15, E 26-37), Elkhovo Okoliya.

4. An unidentified howitzer artillery regiment is also quartered at the barracks of the former 29 Infantry Regiment. The howitzer regiment is equipped with about 30 howitzer guns, each drawn by approximately six horses, and four heavy caliber guns of an unknown type. The officers and men of this unit are trained in horseback riding.

5. An unidentified divisional transportation company, [redacted] is located at the barracks in the northern part of Yambol, near the Tundzha River. This company furnishes transportation for the entire division. The company consists of approximately 30 drivers and is equipped with about 30 trucks. 25X1

6. An unidentified Divisional Motor Repair Shop is attached to the Transportation Company and is located in the same camp area. The shop has two repair pits each capable of handling one vehicle. It services all motorized vehicles under the Yambol Division. Vehicles requiring major repairs are sent to the Military Repairs Plant at Sopot (N 42-38, E 24-46). The Motor Repair Shop personnel consists of the following:

   a. Commanding Officer, an unidentified captain who is probably a mechanical engineer;

   b. Six civilian mechanics; and

   c. Fifteen soldiers who serve as assistant mechanics.

AAA Unit Summer Camp near Galata, Varna Okoliya

7. A summer camp of an antiaircraft artillery unit is located 500 meters west of the lighthouse at Galata (N 43-10, E 27-57), Varna Okoliya. Every year the camp is occupied from 15 May to 15 September and, during this period, three groups each numbering 1,500 - 2,000 men are trained. Each group remains at the camp 35 - 45 days.

8. The following buildings are located in the camp area:

   a. Four 1-story stone buildings, each 20 x 8 meters in size, erected in the spring of 1952, served as slleping quarters during the summer of 1952;

   b. Two buildings, each 30 x 8 meters in size, which served as kitchen and dining hall; and

   c. A number of 8-man tents, used as sleeping quarters by the soldiers during their training period.

9. During training, the men had single-gun firing practice, platoon (two-gun) firing, and battery (four-gun) firing.

10. In the summer of 1952, a phase of the training consisted in firing at a target towed by an airplane. The planes, which were based at Balchik airfield, towed a target approximately 800 meters long over the practice area. One of the planes was apparently accidentally hit in 1951 during training. There were no casualties.

11. A special commission from the Ministry of National Defense witnesses a firing exercise by each group prior to its return to its regularly assigned station.

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Miscellaneous Military Information from the Yambol and Ruse Areas 2. Bulgarian Army Officers	DATE DISTR.	25 May 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT	25X1
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25X1

CW Defense Measures in the Yambol Area

1. All members of the antiaircraft unit, [redacted] in Yambol, is equipped with German-type gas masks. The soldiers drill in the use of the gas masks for two hours every week. It is believed that all military units in the Yambol area are also equipped with German-type gas masks. 25X1

2. All members of [redacted] in Vratsa are equipped with Soviet-type gas masks. These masks have a rubber hose 60 centimeters in length which connects the face piece to the canister. The canister is carried in a bag which is attached to the wearer's belt. The mask covers the entire head. 25X1

Range Finder Operator Training in Yambol AAA Unit

3. Range Finder operators in the antiaircraft artillery unit, [redacted] in Yambol, were trained at the noncommissioned officers school and in the antiaircraft artillery unit. Six men were chosen from this AAA unit for training as range finder operators. They were trained by Sergeant Junior Grade Dobrev (fnu), a gymnasium graduate who had attended the Stalin Agricultural Institute for two years and had completed the course at the noncommissioned officers school in Sliven. 25X1

4. Sergeant Dobrev trained the men in the use of ZD range finders, which have a 1-meter base. The men first learned the theory of range finding and calculating the location of stationary objectives. Later, they learned how to fire at moving ground and aerial targets. Training continued during the entire period of service.

5. An electric device for measuring distance, known as a poaso, is used in the medium caliber antiaircraft artillery. It consists of a square case with sides about one meter in length and is mounted on a two-wheel base.

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6. One platoon at the antiaircraft artillery noncommissioned officers school in Sliven was trained in the operation of range finders. The men taking this 6-month course were graduated as sergeants, junior grade, and then returned to their units to train a selected group of men.

Quartermaster Officers School in Ruse

7. The Quartermaster Officers School, [redacted] in Ruse is composed of approximately 180 students. The school gives a two-year course at the completion of which the graduates receive appointments as second lieutenants. The students' uniforms are dark blue, with red epaulets bordered with yellow piping. The students wear red caps and high boots. 25X1

Bulgarian Army Personnel

8. [redacted] the following Bulgarian Army officers: 25X1

a. Lieutenant Colonel Rangelov (fnu), [redacted] 25X1

b. Captain Boris Simeonov Gurnev, [redacted] 25X1

c. Senior Lieutenant Georgi Iliev Mensheliev, [redacted] 25X1

d. Junior Lieutenant Asen Polyanov, [redacted] 25X1

e. Lieutenant Bolinov (fnu), [redacted] 25X1

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT 1. Army Barracks in the Yambol Area
2. Yambol Military Airfield

DATE OF INFO.

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Army Barracks in the Yambol Area

25X1

1. The following Army barracks are located in Yambol:

   a. One in the northeast section of Yambol;

   b. One in the northwest section of Yambol, near the Tundzha River;

   c. One northwest of the Yambol railroad station.

2. The first barracks, formerly occupied by 29 Infantry Regiment, now houses the 40 Infantry Regiment and an unidentified artillery unit. Also quartered here are a communications unit, a mine-laying unit, and other unidentified units. The barracks area is approximately 1,000 x 500 meters in size and includes about 50 buildings. During the summer of 1952, an unidentified Trudovak unit constructed a new, 2-story, U-shaped building in the barracks area. The main section of this building is approximately 60 meters long and the wings are 20 meters in length, and 10 meters wide. The two stories are used as enlisted men's living quarters and the basement houses mess halls and kitchens.

3. The second barracks houses the following units:

   a. The 7 AAA Battalion,

   b. A tank battalion,

   c. An antitank unit,

   d. The Divisional Transportation unit; and

   e. The Divisional Motor Repair Shop.

25X1

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4. In 1951, a covered area for parking tanks was constructed in the second barracks area in Yambol. Thirty tanks, which belong to [redacted] are parked in this area. Between 650 and 700 men are housed in the second barracks area. 25X1

5. The third barracks is attached to the Yambol military airfield and allegedly houses 1,500 men.

6. A sketch showing the second Army barracks in the Yambol area is included as Appendix A on page 3.

Yambol Military Airfield

7. The Yambol military airfield (N 42-31, E 26-28) is located approximately one kilometer northwest of the Yambol Railroad Station. The runway is approximately 1,300 meters long and runs in a north-south direction. This airfield is equipped with three hangars, located approximately 50 meters west of the runway. Two bright red lights were observed on the top of poles situated south of the first and north of the third hangar.

8. A twin-engine transport plane was used at the Yambol airfield for parachute training. As many as 100 jumps were made during one 24-hour period. Aerial shows, including parachute jumping by civilians, were held at the airfield on national holidays. The civilians were probably trained by DOSO (Dobrovolna Organizatsiya za Sydeystvie na Otbrana; Voluntary Organization for Defense Assistance).

9. All the planes at Yambol airfield are used for training purposes. During October 1952, [redacted] 160 Air Force officers from the field in Yambol.[1] 25X1

10. A sketch showing the military airfield at Yambol is included as Appendix B on page 4.

1. [redacted] 25X1

Legend to Appendix A

1. Parking area for vehicles and antitank guns [redacted] 25X1
2. Stables and Veterinary Clinic of Division
3. Forage Barn
4. Kitchen
5. Shoe Repair Shop; Tailor Shop; and Canteen
6. Vehicle Repair Shop
7. Food Storage
8. Visitors' Checkpoint
9. Parking Area for Antiaircraft Guns [redacted] 25X1
10. Guard Quarters
11. Storage Areas
12. Sleeping Quarters for Enlisted Men
13. Munitions Storage
14. Sleeping Quarters for Men of the Transportation Company and the Scouting Unit; a clothing depot is located on the first floor of this building
15. Sleeping Quarters for Enlisted Men [redacted] 25X1
16. Parking Area for Tanks
17. Underground Gasoline Dumps
18. Classroom; Stables
19. Parade Ground
20. Rifle Range

~~x x x~~ Barbed Wire Fence

~~xxxxx~~ Stone Wall

NOTE: The majority of the buildings in the camp area are 1-story buildings.

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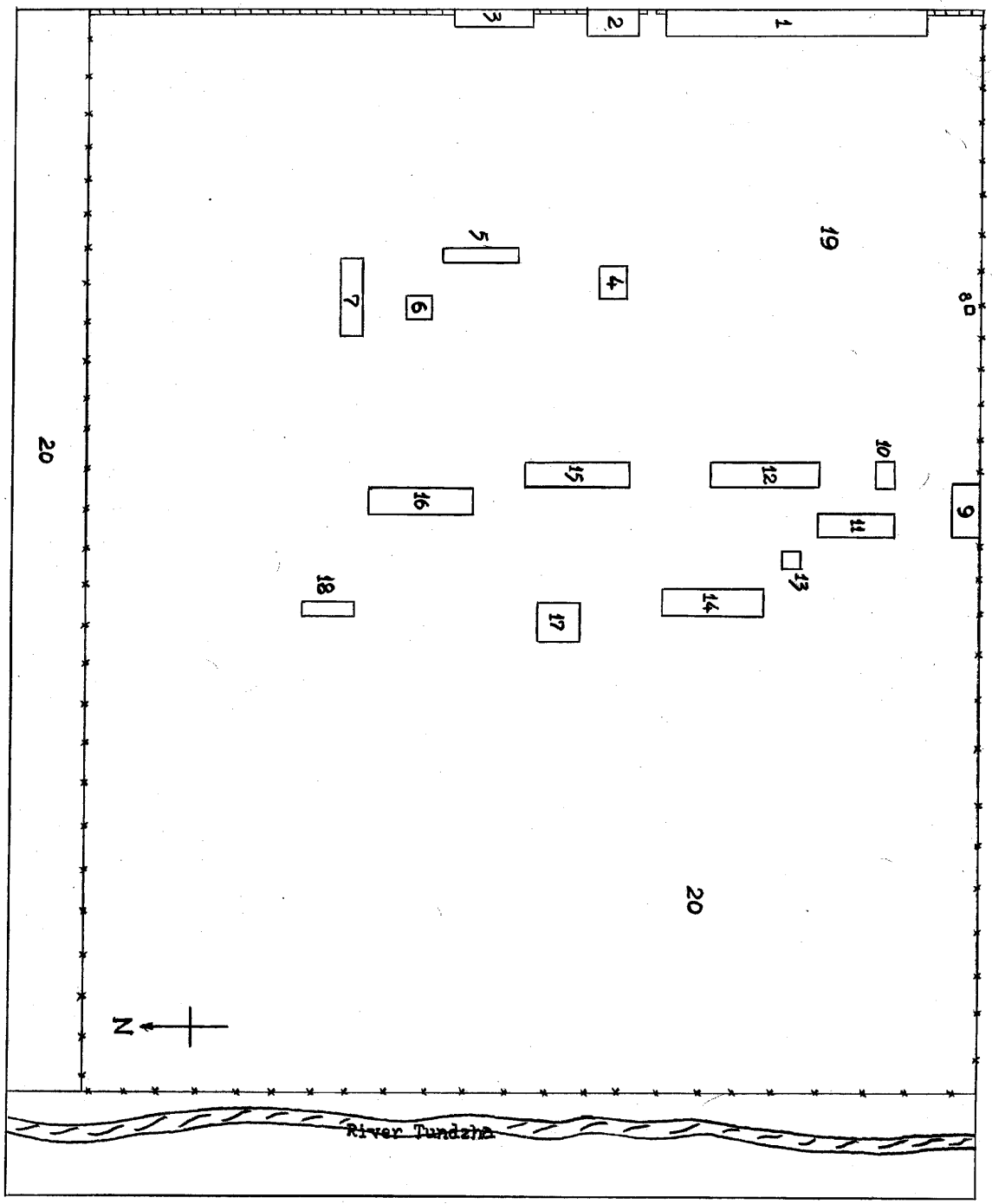
APPENDIX A



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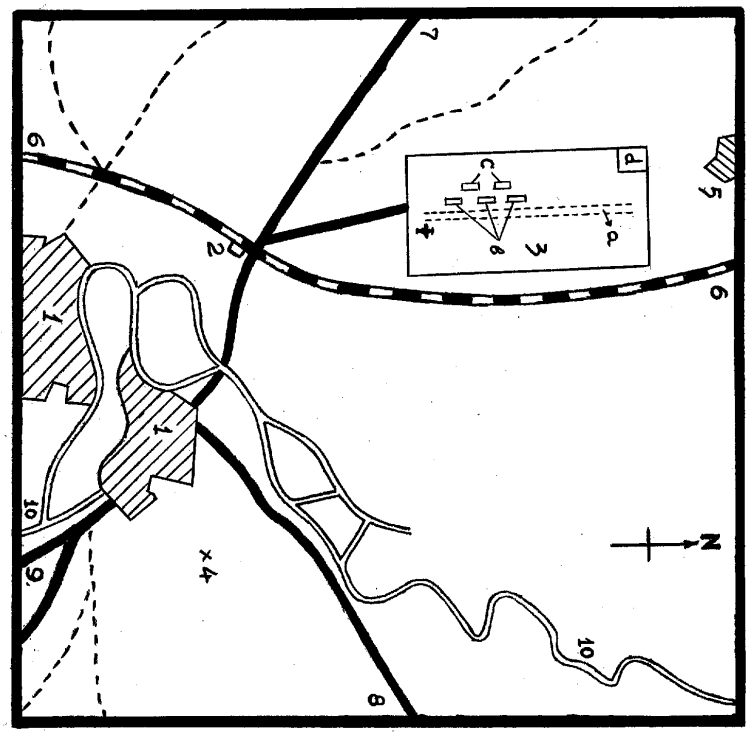
APPENDIX B



Legend

1. Yambol
2. Yambol Railroad Station
3. Airfield: a. Concrete Runway
   b. Hangars
   c. Barracks
   d. Open air Gasoline Dump (capacity about 20 R.R. tank cars)
4. AAA Position, one battery,
5. Izvor, Yambol Okoliya
6. Plovdiv - Burgas Railroad Line
7. Sliven - Yambol Highway
8. Yambol - Burgas Highway
9. Yambol - Elkhovo Highway
10. Tundzha River

------ Dirt Roads

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